

Great Salt Lake Water Quality Initiative

Schedule of Activities - Farmington Bay

This section relates to Farmington Bay ongoing research and the development of a report which identifies the current conclusions and known gaps in existing research.

1. CH2M Hill has issued a draft technical memorandum containing a multi-variate analysis of water quality, wetland vegetation, and invertebrate populations. The consultant is in the process of report finalization.

Anticipated completion date: November 17, 2006

2. John Cavitt from Weber State is in the final stages of report preparation for the Farmington Bay bird survey and analysis. This report is nearing completion, and meetings are being held to finalize the document.

Anticipated completion date: November 24, 2006

3. Theron Miller and Heidi Hoven are compiling all of the wetland reports and data and are beginning to prepare a wrap up report with tentative conclusions and future needs.

Anticipated completion date: December 29, 2006

4. A technical review committee (TRC) assembled from an open solicitation of all organizations involved or interested in the Bay needs to be assembled. The members of the TRC will include those who are willing and capable to provide technical review and input to the process. Others may attend as desired. This TRC will be given copies of all reports for review and will be used to establish consensus findings and to identify gaps in the existing research. The Division of Water Quality will organize the TRC and will appoint staff to chair the process. This step is for populating the TRC only.

Anticipated completion date: January 12, 2007

5. Submit all reports to TRC for review and evaluation.

Anticipated completion date: January 19, 2007

6. First meeting of the TRC to discuss and evaluate current knowledge as contained in reports and other available sources. Establish gaps in research needing continuing studies.

Anticipated completion date: February 23, 2007

7. The TRC, through a contractor or staff, will prepare and distribute a draft report outlining the conclusions the committee can arrive at through consensus and the research gaps that require further research. The GAP report will form the basis for continuing research on the wetlands and the open water of Farmington Bay.

Anticipated completion date: March 30, 2007

8. Finalize Conclusions and Gap report for distribution.

Anticipated completion date: May 11, 2007

Schedule of Activities - Great Salt Lake Commission/Institute

This section deals with the establishment of a Great Salt Lake Watershed Council and the formation of a commission or institute to generate funds for and direct continuing water quality studies for the Great Salt Lake. In general, the activities described assume that the final goal of this process is the continuation of scientific research to allow for the determination of the mechanisms that exist in the Great Salt Lake and the identification of impairments, if they exist, and, if needed, the subsequent TMDL to arrive at a return to beneficial use.

9. Draft report from Heidi Hoven on recommendations about how to establish a program/commission/institute for GSL Water Quality studies that will be able to obtain funding and direct studies.

Anticipated completion date: January 19, 2007

10. Open Stakeholder meeting to discuss establishment of a stakeholder based Great Salt Lake Watershed Council to direct the commission/institute presented in the establishment report discussed in item 9 above. The Watershed Council will have an open structure and any interested individual or organization will be invited to participate. This approach is consistent with other water shed councils established in Utah.

Anticipated completion date: February 9, 2007

11. Finalize report after distribution of the draft report to the broad stakeholder group for comments and modifications as needed.

Anticipated completion date: May 25, 2007

12. Draft report from Heidi Hoven on a proposed methodology to be used in establishing an impairment exists in an intended beneficial use of Farmington Bay.

Anticipated completion date: May 4, 2007

13. Through the Great Salt Lake Watershed Council establish a framework for GSL (Farmington Bay) commission/institute to
- A. Solicit funding and develop ongoing sources of funds,
 - B. Approve process for determining impairment,
 - C. Establish priority for research needs,
 - D. Direct program for additional research by priority, and
 - E. Make recommendations to the WQB through the Division of Water Quality for regulatory changes.

Anticipated completion date: August 3, 2007

14. Begin process through the appropriate officials to begin commission/institute establishment process in the following areas:
- A. Administrative
 - B. Legislative

Anticipated timing: Ongoing from August 3, 2007

15. Establish commission if politics work out and consensus of the watershed council/stakeholders can be obtained.
16. Establish funding process.
17. Continue required research - involve other entities, agencies and organizations as appropriate.